

SPENDING CONTROL ACT OF 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4663) to amend part C of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 to establish discretionary spending limits and a pay-as-you-go requirement for mandatory spending:

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to support the RSC budget amendment. It is a responsible amendment, and necessary in a time of war budgeting—and I would suggest, it should even be applied in times of peace.

Congress can act to reduce spending. Public support is there—I hear it from constituents all the time. People have priorities—the war on terror, economic growth through tax relief, and Less Government. They don't want millions more spent on wasteful programs that benefit narrow special interests.

We passed record tax relief and it has helped fuel growth and to create jobs. Now we can put in motion a plan to bring down federal spending—This is the next step in the Republican economic plan for America.

This amendment reverses the cycle of higher spending and higher taxes; it balances the budget within 5 years through spending caps and real deficit reduction.

HONORING CONGRESSMAN DOUG BEREUTER

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 6, 2004

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a good friend and outstanding public servant, Congressman DOUG BEREUTER.

I have become familiar with DOUG and his work having served as a member of the U.S. House delegation to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, which he chairs. I have participated in numerous congressional delegations abroad which he has led and was always impressed with his knowledge of world affairs and his determination to increase understanding among NATO partners.

DOUG also has been a tireless advocate for his Cornhusker State constituents during his 26 year House tenure. He has served longer than any other Nebraskan, during which time he has penned many laws to help his diverse constituency, including ones to promote his State's agricultural exports, improve health care and child welfare, end international hunger, and protect Native Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to call DOUG BEREUTER a friend and colleague. His constituents and our country are losing an honorable and dedicated public servant, the likes of which bring credit to this hallowed institution in which we are so fortunate to serve. I wish him and his wife, Louise, health and happiness in their future endeavors.

BOWDOIN INTERNATIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL CELEBRATES ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON

HON. THOMAS H. ALLEN

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 6, 2004

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, this summer marks the 40th anniversary season of the world-renowned Bowdoin International Music Festival. I take particular pride in this program, which is housed on the beautiful campus of my alma mater, Bowdoin College, in Brunswick, Maine, in my Congressional District.

Each summer for 6 weeks, more than 200 gifted young musicians of graduate, college and high school levels gather here from around the globe. They learn from and perform with some of the best teaching and performing musicians in the world. In this international community, students and faculty thrive in an intense but joyful atmosphere. The program consists of individual classes and practice, chamber coaching and group practice, master classes, and numerous performance opportunities. These include student concerts and an outreach program, in which students perform at local venues such as retirement homes and resorts. The public is also invited to the festival's "MusicFest," a formal chamber music series that features festival artists and internationally-renowned guest artists, "Upbeat!," a mix of contemporary and traditional music in an informal atmosphere, and the week-long Charles E. Gamper Festival of Contemporary Music.

The Bowdoin International Music Festival has furthered the artistic mastery of numerous students, enriched Maine's educational and cultural environment, and brought pleasure to thousands of listeners. I am confident that its success will continue for decades to come.

70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LADIES AUXILIARY OF CLEARY-KRECH POST #1707, VFW

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 6, 2004

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Ladies Auxiliary of Cleary-Krech Post #1707, Veterans of Foreign Wars, from Portage, Wisconsin, who recently celebrated their 70th anniversary. This group, comprised of wives, widows, mothers, grandmothers, daughters, and sisters of those who were eligible for membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars, came into existence thanks to the tireless efforts of Ella Johnson and Dorothy Krech.

From its inception, the dedicated women of the Ladies Auxiliary have held fundraisers, including bake sales, card parties, pot-luck dinners, bingo, old time dances, and WLS amateur shows at the armory. Those efforts raised money for the National Home in Eaton Rapids, Michigan and a banner for the Auxiliary. In 1937, the Auxiliary began sponsoring the National Essay Contest, giving cash prizes to the three winning essays from high school students.

In anticipation of the district conference, the Auxiliary formed their now famous kitchen

band in order to provide entertainment. This band created music using instruments such as brooms, a wash tub, rolling pins, clothes pins, and a skillet. At several special occasions, the band performed their musical talents, including the Portage Harvest Festival. In 1948, 28 members went to the Veterans Hospital in Tomah where they entertained over 350 veterans.

When the Veterans held their Midwinter Conference in Portage in January of 1950, the attendees had to stay in private homes as the hotels were filled. Two national leaders and five hundred representatives of the Veterans of Foreign Wars attended the conference, making it the largest event ever hosted by the Cleary-Krech Post #1707. In anticipation of this large crowd, the vacated police station was purchased from the city and remodeled so that it could house the participants of the conference.

Currently, the auxiliary offers services to local schools, such as the Patriot Pen Award for the best student essay about democracy. They also provide rehabilitation services to veterans and their families, senior citizens, and at-risk homeless veterans. Today, I join the City of Portage in celebrating the Ladies Auxiliary for seventy years of outstanding service to the community and the nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 6, 2004

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for debate on the Spending Control Act (H.R. 4663), rollcall vote 305, an amendment by Brady (TX); rollcall vote 306, an amendment by Chocola; rollcall vote 307, an amendment by Castle; and rollcall vote 308, an amendment by Hensarling; rollcall vote 309, an amendment by Hensarling; rollcall vote 310, an amendment by Kirk; rollcall vote 311, an amendment by Ryan; rollcall vote 312, an amendment by Ryan; rollcall vote 313, an amendment by Ryan; rollcall vote 314, an amendment by Spratt; rollcall vote 315, an amendment by Hensarling; rollcall vote 316, an amendment by Kirk; rollcall vote 317, a motion to recommit with instructions; and rollcall vote 318, final passage.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" for rollcall votes 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 315, 316, and 318. I would have voted "nay" on rollcall votes 314 and 317.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 6, 2004

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, June 25th, I was meeting with constituents in North Carolina and unavoidably missed rollcall votes Nos. 321, 322, 323, 324, and 325.

Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote No. 321; "no" on rollcall vote No. 322; "no" on rollcall vote No. 323;